

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A roasting oven comprising:
 - an outer housing having a lid member including electrically conductive supporting means for attaching said lid member to said housing;
 - a heating well residing within said housing, said heating well having a bottom surface with integrally formed sidewalls and an open top;
 - heating means including a top heating element disposed in said lid member, said top heating element being electrically connected to a power source via said electrically conductive supporting means, and a wrap-around heating element radially disposed about said heating well and positioned intermediate said housing and said heating well;
 - temperature controlling means electrically interconnected to said heating means for regulating the temperature of said heating elements; and
 - function controlling means electrically interconnected to said temperature controlling means and to said heating elements enabling said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element to be selectively energized to provide variable cooking modes.
2. The roasting oven of Claim 1 wherein said electrically conductive supporting means comprises an extensible hinge mechanism wherein an electrical circuit supplying said top heating element is integrated in the body of said extensible hinge mechanism.
3. The roasting oven of Claim 2 wherein said top heating element is electrically connected to a power source by telescoping pin connectors engaging an electrical plug assembly within said extensible hinge mechanism, said extensible hinge mechanism providing increased capacity within said oven to accommodate an oversize food item.
4. The roasting oven of Claim 3 wherein said lid member is provided with a lid extension attached to a lower peripheral edge of said lid member and extending to an upper edge of said housing to enclose said increased vertical space.
5. The roasting oven of Claim 1 wherein said temperature controlling means comprises a rheostatic temperature controller.
6. The roasting oven of Claim 5 wherein said function controlling means

comprises a standard electromechanical power switch.

7. A roasting oven comprising:

an outer housing having a lid member including electrically conductive supporting means for attaching said lid member to said housing, said lid member including an inverted recess formed therein to provide increased volume within said oven to accommodate oversize food items;

a heating well residing within said housing, said heating well having a bottom surface with integrally formed sidewalls and an open top;

heating means including a top heating element disposed within inverted recess formed in said lid member, said top heating element being electrically connected to a power source via said electrically conductive supporting means, and a wrap-around heating element radially disposed about said heating well and positioned intermediate said housing and said heating well;

temperature controlling means electrically interconnected to said heating means for regulating the temperature of said heating elements; and

function controlling means electrically interconnected to said temperature controlling means and to said heating elements enabling said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element to be energized.

8. The roasting oven of Claim 7 wherein said electrically conductive supporting means comprises a hinge mechanism wherein an electrical circuit supplying said top heating element is integrated into the body of said hinge mechanism.

9. The roasting oven of Claim 8 wherein said top heating element is electrically connected to a power source by a pin connector attached by electrical wiring to an electrical plug assembly within said hinge mechanism wherein the electrical circuit is completed when said hinge mechanism is in a closed position.

10. The roasting oven of Claim 7 wherein said temperature controlling means comprises a rheostatic temperature controller.

11. The roasting oven of Claim 10 wherein said function controlling means comprises a standard electromechanical power switch.

12. A roasting oven comprising:

an outer housing having a lid member;

a heating well residing within said housing, said heating well having a bottom surface with integrally formed sidewalls and an open top;

heating means including a top heating element disposed in said lid member and a wrap-around heating element radially disposed about said heating well and positioned intermediate said housing and said heating well;

temperature controlling means electrically interconnected to said heating means for regulating the temperature of said heating elements; and

function controlling means electrically interconnected to said temperature controlling means and to said heating elements enabling said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element to be selectively energized to provide variable cooking modes.

13. The roasting oven of Claim 12 wherein said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element are electrically connected to a single power source by a main power cord, said top heating element being connected via a secondary power cord to an auxiliary power outlet integrated within said housing.

14. The roasting oven of Claim 13 wherein said lid member is provided with a lid extension attached to a lower peripheral edge of said lid member, wherein said lid extension is disposed intermediate said lid member and an upper edge of said housing to provide increased capacity within said oven.

15. The roasting oven of Claim 12 wherein said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element are both electrically connected to remote power sources by separate power cords.

16. The roasting oven of Claim 15 wherein said lid member is provided with a lid extension attached to a lower peripheral edge of said lid member, wherein said lid extension is disposed intermediate said lid member and an upper edge of said housing to provide increased capacity within said oven.

17. A roasting oven comprising:

an outer housing including a lid member having an inverted recess formed therein to provide increased vertical clearance within said oven to accommodate oversize food items;

a heating well residing within said housing, said heating well having a bottom surface with integrally formed sidewalls and an open top;

heating means electrically connected to a power source, wherein said heating means includes a top heating element disposed in said inverted recess of said lid member, and a wrap-around heating element radially disposed about said heating well and positioned intermediate said housing and said heating well;

temperature controlling means electrically interconnected to said heating means for regulating the temperature of said heating elements; and

function controlling means electrically interconnected to said temperature controlling means and to said heating elements enabling said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element to be energized to provide variable cooking modes.

18. The roasting oven of Claim 17 wherein said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element are electrically connected to a singular power source by a main power cord, said top heating element being connected via a secondary power cord to an auxiliary power outlet integrated into said housing.

19. The roasting oven of Claim 17 wherein said top heating element and said wrap-around heating element are both electrically connected to remote power sources by separate power cords.